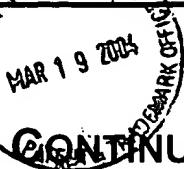


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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

<i>15</i>	<i>RECEIVED</i>
Application Number	09/853,104
Filing Date	March 19, 2004
First Named Inventor	James R. Richard
Group Art Unit	3765
Examiner Name	Alissa L. Hoey
Attorney Docket Number	MAR 23 2004 01478-P0006B OFFICE OF PETITIONS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); interim Rule 65 Red. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
- i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- II. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Preliminary Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall be exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required.)
- b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4516.
 - i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) : 03/23/2004 4H0NDAF1 00000041 09853104
 - ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) 02 FC:2801 385.00 0P
 - iii. Other Any Fee Deficiency
- b. Check is enclosed to cover the \$385.00 fee.
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	Todd M. Oberdick	Registration No (Attorney/Agent)	44,268
Signature		Date	March 19, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE; Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: March 19, 2004.

Name (Print / Type)	Caroline Gahagan	Date	March 19, 2004
Signature		Date	March 19, 2004

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2003

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision

 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$1,050.00)

Complete if Known

RECEIVED

Application No.	09/853,104
Filing Date	May 10, 2001
First Named Inventor	James R. Richard
Examiner Name	Alissa L. Hoyer
Art Unit	3765
Attorney Docket Number	01478-P0006B GSW/DC

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit Card Money Other None
 Deposit Account: order

Deposit Account Number

19-4516

Deposit Account Name

St.Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fees(s) during the pendency of this application
 Charge fees(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1101	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2202	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)

2. EXTRA CLAIMS FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
			-20**	X	=
			-3**	X	=

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee Code	Fee Description
1201	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claims, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

** or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES					
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description			Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing for or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte reexamination</i>	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	40	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,450	2254	725	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	1,970	2255	985	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	665.00
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(h))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	385.00
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify) _____					
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid				SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)	1,050.00

SUBMITTED BY St.Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Todd M. Oberdick	Registration No (Attorney/Agent)	44,268	Telephone	203 324-6155
Signature				Date	3/19/2004

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038

This collection of information is required by 37CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering of information, preparing and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce; P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORM TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box 1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 8-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2